

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Pesticide Programs

Electronic Submission Guidance

**Standard Format for Electronic Submission of  
Supplemental Data Files in Support of**

**Terrestrial and Aquatic Plant  
Studies**

February 6, 2001

## Environmental Fate and Effects Studies

# Terrestrial and Aquatic Plant Studies

*The following general guidance applies to both **terrestrial** and **aquatic** plant studies.*

- Data should be provided in files separate from other material such as reviews.
- Data files should have a special file extension not used for other kinds of files, probably ".dat" (e.g., "ONION.DAT").
- Missing measurements should be indicated by a dot (".") as in the example below. A missing value code should be required when there are multiple endpoints in the same file.
- Individual numbers or values on a line are separated by one or more spaces
- Lines or rows of data are separated by a hard return
- Data files should be ASCII.
- Character data such as variable names or treatment group names should consist of strings of length not more than 8 characters.
- Ratio endpoints such as emergence (the fraction of seeds that emerge) should be represented as decimal numbers rather than as percentages.

### Example of suggested file format

Following is how a file might look for a study with two treatment levels and four measurement endpoints:

```
BLECKOFOS / ONION / EMERGENCE
10 23
      Height  Weight  Emergnce  Phytotox
C      2.5    3.0    1.00    0.00
C      1.9    2.8    1.00    0.00
1      1.8    2.2    0.88    0.00
1      1.9    2.5    0.79    0.00
2      .      .      0.00    .
2      1.0    1.9    0.22    1.00
```

An explanation of each line follows:

Line 1: Title line

Line 2: Dose values applied to treated groups

Line 3: Names of measurement endpoints ( $\leq 8$  characters per name)

Lines 4 ff: data for individual plots, data columns as follows:

Column 1: Treatment group

Columns 2-5: Values of measurement endpoints. The endpoints are identified on Line 3.  
(The 3rd name on Line 3 is the name of the 3rd endpoint from left to right, and so on.)

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